

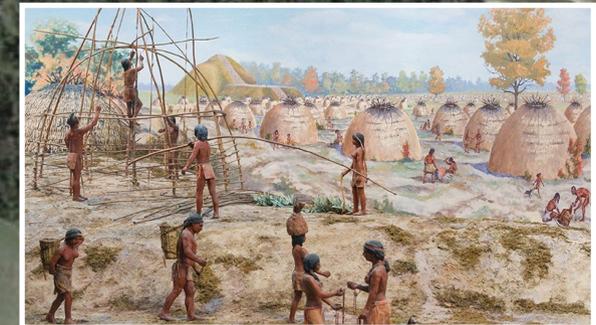
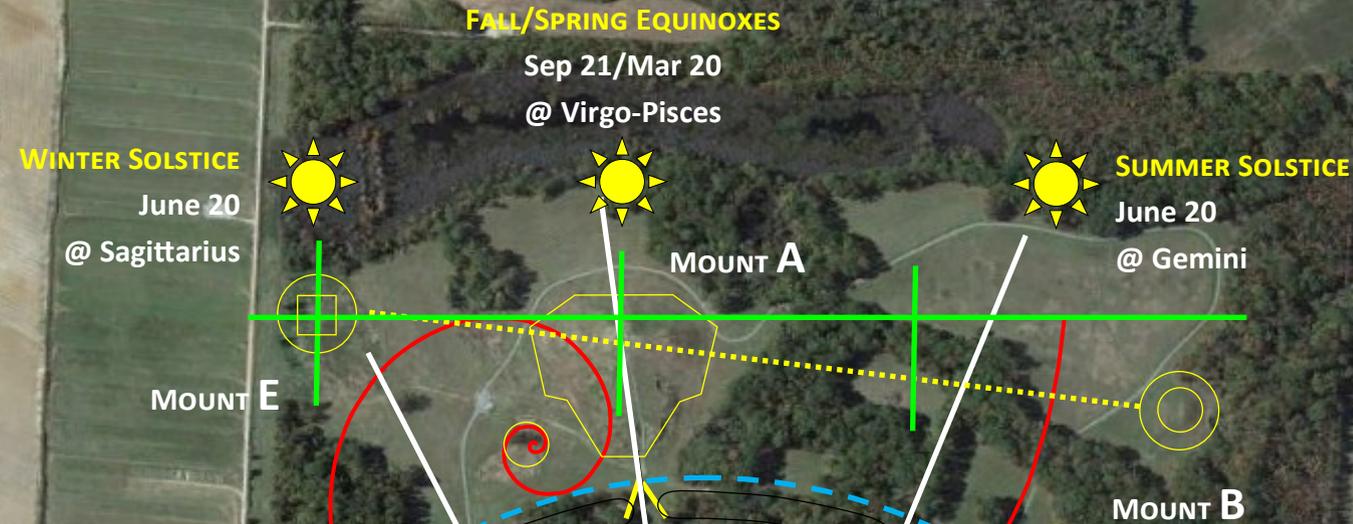
# SOLAR STATIONS OF POVERTY POINT

The purpose of this chart is to suggest that based on astronomical observations, the mounds served as a 'cosmic clock' that delineated the Solstices and Equinoxes of the year. Scholars have advanced various theories regarding the purpose of the mound site, including religious and ceremonial. Other writers have proposed pseudo-archaeological and New Age associations. The original purposes of Poverty Point have not been determined by archaeologists, although they have proposed various possibilities including that it was a settlement, a trading center, and/or a ceremonial religious complex. Poverty Point has been described as the largest and most complex Late Archaic earthwork occupation and ceremonial site yet found in North America. Poverty Point State Historic Site (French: Pointe de Pauvreté) is a prehistoric earthworks and now a U.S. National Monument and World Heritage Site located in the Southern United States.



Bayou Maçon

Poverty Point comprises several earthworks and mounds, built between 1650 and 700 BC during the Archaic Period in North America, by a group of Native Americans. The culture extended 100 miles (160 km) across the Mississippi Delta. The monumental construction is a group of 6 concentric, crescent ridge earthworks, divided by 5 aisles radiating from the center at the river bank. The site also has several mounds both on the outside and inside of the ring earthworks.



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Poverty Point came from the plantation which once surrounded the site. It is 15.5 miles from the current Mississippi River and situated on the edge of Maçon Ridge, near the village of Epps in West Carroll Parish in northeastern Louisiana. Poverty Point is constructed entirely of earthworks. The core of the site measures approximately 500 acres although archaeological investigations have shown that the total occupation area extended for more than three miles along the river terrace.



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